

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 01719 282323Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 DLOS-09 HA-05

OIC-02 /153 W

-----100461 282329Z /17

P 282319Z APR 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1046

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS USUN NEW YORK 01719

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: APRIL 27 MEETING OF AD HOC COMMITTEE

OF THE WHOLE, UNGA 9TH SPECIAL SESSION

REF: USUN 1668

1. SUMMARY: THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON NAMIBIA MET PM APRIL 27 TO COMMENCE SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION (UNGA DOCUMENT A/S-9/7). INSTEAD OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 01719 282323Z

BEGINNING A CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT, PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH, THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, ZAMBIAN AMB KONIE, PROCEEDED TO RUSH THROUGH THE DRAFT FIVE OR MORE PARAGRAPHS AT A TIME. NOBODY OFFERED COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (EXCEPT THE US), AND THE ENTIRE PROCESS TOOK NO MORE THAN FORTY-FIVE MINUTES (IF THAT). THIS "RAIL-ROADING" PROCEDURE CAUGHT MANY DELEGATIONS BY SURPRISE.

AFTER CONSIDERABLE HURRIED LOBBYING, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO POSTPONE FINAL ACTION ON THE DRAFT. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MAY 1. END SUMMARY.

2. THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE NINTH UNGA SPECIAL SESSION MET AFTERNOON APRIL 27. PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION, WESTERN FIVE AND EC-9 MADE SEPARATE STATEMENTS (REFTEL). THE UNITED STATES, ON BEHALF OF THE FIVE REFERRED TO THE APRIL 25 SPEECH IN PLENARY BY CANADIAN SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS JAMIESON DESCRIBING THE WORK OF THE CONTACT GROUP, STRESSED THE FIVE'S INTENTION TO ADOPT A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE'S WORK, BUT NOTED THAT IN THE END THE FIVE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO EXPRESS A SUBSTANTIVE POSITION ON THE DRAFTS BECAUSE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF THE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT EFFORT IN WHICH WE ARE ENGAGED.

3. DENMARK, ON BEHALF OF THE EC-9, THEN READ A STATEMENT EXPLAINING THAT THE NINE ARE IN "GENERAL AGREEMENT" WITH THE SPIRIT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE TWO DOCUMENTS BUT HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC PROVISIONS. DENMARK SAID THE NINE COULD NOT SUPPORT THE ENDORSEMENT OR INTENSIFICATION OF ARMED STRUGGLE. FURTHERMORE, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 01719 282323Z

WHILE RECOGNIZING SWAPO AS A MAJOR POLITICAL FORCE, THEY FELT IT SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE TO DECIDE WHO THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WERE. DENMARK STATED THAT THE NINE CONSIDERED THE WESTERN PROPOSAL THE BEST MEANS OF ACHIEVING A SPEEDY AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE IN NAMIBIA.

4. THE COMMITTEE THEN BEGAN CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION. THIS "CONSIDERATION" AMOUNTED TO RUSHING THROUGH THE DRAFT FIVE OR MORE PARAGRAPHS AT A TIME IN A TOTAL OF AT MOST FORTY-FIVE MINUTES. MANY DELEGATIONS WERE FLABERGASTED BY THE PROCEDURE WHICH OBVIOUSLY WAS DRIVING TOWARD A QUICK CALL FOR CONSENSUS. AFTER EXTENSIVE AND SPEEDY LOBBYING, THE TRAIN WAS STOPPED BY A DANISH REQUEST TO POSTPONE FINAL ACTION ON THE DRAFT. THIS REQUEST WAS SUPPORTED BY A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS WHO ARGUED THAT SWAPO PRESIDENT NUJOMA WAS SCHEDULED TO MAKE ANOTHER ADDRESS (APRIL 28) TO THE ASSEMBLY AND THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO ADOPT THE DECLARATION IN ADVANCE OF THAT ADDRESS. THE CANADIANS LED OTHERS, WHO STATED THAT THEY LACKED INSTRUCTIONS. EVENTUALLY THE MOTION FOR POST-

PONEMENT WAS ADOPTED. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MAY 1. AT THAT MEETING THE FIVE HAVE DETERMINED THAT THERE WILL BE A CALL FOR A VOTE (TO AVOID CONSENSUS); WE ARE SEEKING A FRIENDLY DEL OUTSIDE THE CONTACT GROUP TO CALL THE VOTE. THE WESTERN FIVE INTEND TO ABSTAIN ON GENERAL GROUNDS OF THEIR NEED TO RETAIN AN APPROPRIATELY NEUTRAL NEGOTIATING POSTURE ON NAMIBIA. OTHER WESTERN DELEGATIONS ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO ABSTAIN ON PRIMARILY SUBSTANTIVE BUT ALSO PROCEDURAL GROUNDS. THERE IS FAIRLY WIDESPREAD NON-AFRICAN RESENTMENT OF THE GROSS RAILROADING DESCRIBED ABOVE. YOUNG

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VOTING, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, SESSION (UN SPECIAL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN01719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780183-0072
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978042/aaaaabsi.tel
Line Count: 127
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 600049a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USUN NEW YORK 1668
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2858077
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: APRIL 27 MEETING OF AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, UNGA 9TH SPECIAL SESSION
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/600049a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014